

In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A system for capacity management, comprising:
a first capacity reserved for a first device design in a first capacity management cycle;
a second capacity reserved for a second device design having a pull-in demand in a second capacity management cycle after the first capacity management cycle, where the pull-in demand represents the demand for the second device design must be manufactured as soon as possible;
and
a processing unit to recognize the second capacity with the pull-in demand, and
exchange the first capacity and the second capacity, ~~wherein the~~
~~processing unit to~~ directs the first capacity to meet the second device design and the second capacity to meet the first device design, such that the second device design can be manufactured as soon as possible.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising a production line to manufacture the second device design using the first capacity after the first capacity management cycle.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2 wherein the production line further manufactures the first device design using the second capacity after the second capacity management cycle.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the processing unit further checks whether the first capacity reserved for the first device design is sufficient for the second capacity reserved for the second device design.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising a reservation unit for reserving capacity in the first and second capacity management cycles.

6. (Original) The system of claim 5 wherein the first capacity is reserved by a first client and the second capacity is reserved by a second client.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for capacity management, comprising the steps of:

exchanging a first capacity reserved for a first device design in a first capacity management cycle with a second capacity reserved for a second device design in a second capacity management cycle after the first capacity management cycle, in which the second device design has a pull-in demand, and the pull-in demand represents the demand for the second device design must be manufactured as soon as possible;

directing ~~such that the first capacity to meets the second device design and the~~
second capacity to meets the first device design, such that the second
device design can be manufactured as soon as possible.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising manufacturing the second device design using the first capacity after the first capacity management cycle.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising manufacturing the first device design using the second capacity after the second capacity management cycle.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising checking whether the first capacity reserved for the first device design is sufficient for the second capacity reserved for the second device design.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising reserving capacity in the first and second capacity management cycles for the first and second device designs respectively.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the first capacity is reserved by a first client and the second capacity is reserved by a second client.

13. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium storing a computer program which when executed causes a computer to perform a method for capacity management, the method comprising the steps of:

exchanging a first capacity reserved for a first device design in a first capacity management cycle with a second capacity reserved for a second device design in a second capacity management cycle after the first capacity management cycle, in which the second device design has a pull-in demand, and the pull-in demand represents the demand for the second device design must be manufactured as soon as possible;

directing ~~such that~~ the first capacity to meets the second device design and the second capacity to meets the first device design, such that the second device design can be manufactured as soon as possible.

14. (Original) The storage medium of claim 13 wherein the method further comprises a step of manufacturing the second device design using the first capacity after the first capacity management cycle.

15. (Original) The storage medium of claim 14 wherein the method further comprises a step of manufacturing the first device design using the second capacity after the second capacity management cycle.

16. (Original) The storage medium of claim 13 wherein the method further comprises a step of checking whether the first capacity reserved for the first device design is sufficient for the second capacity reserved for the second device design.

17. (Original) The storage medium of claim 13 wherein the method further comprises a step of reserving capacity in the first and second capacity management cycles for the first and second device designs respectively.

18. (Original) The storage medium of claim 17 wherein the first capacity is reserved by a first client and the second capacity is reserved by a second client.

19. (Currently Amended) A capacity trading system, comprising:

a user interface to receive a capacity release request and a pull-in demand, in

which the capacity release request comprises a first capacity reserved for a first device design in a first capacity management cycle, and the pull-in demand represents a second device design must be manufactured as soon as possible;

a processing unit coupled to the user interface to receive the capacity release request and the pull-in demand, and release the first capacity to meet the pull-in demand, such that the second device design can be manufactured using the first capacity; and

an accounting unit to generate a bill for the pull-in demand.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19 further comprising a production line to manufacture products for the pull-in demand using the first capacity after the first capacity management cycle.

21. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the processing unit further checks whether the first capacity is sufficient for the pull-in demand.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19 further comprising a reservation unit to reserve a second capacity for a the first device design ~~corresponding to the first capacity~~ in a second capacity management cycle behind the first capacity management cycle when the first capacity is released.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22 further comprising a production line to manufacture products for the first device design using the second capacity after the second capacity management cycle.

24. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the capacity release request is received from a first client and the pull-in demand is received from a second client via a network, in which information of the first and second clients is kept confidential by the capacity trading system.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the accounting unit further transmits the bill to the second client.

26. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the accounting unit further calculates a discount for the products of the first client.

27. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the processing unit further transmits a notification to the first client, in which the notification comprises cycle time of the second capacity management cycle and completion date for the products of the first client.

28. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the processing unit further defines a capacity push-out ratio for the first client, and the first capacity follows accordingly.

29. (Original) The system of claim 22 wherein the second capacity is originally reserved for the pull-in demand.

30. (Currently Amended) A capacity trading method, comprising the steps of:
receiving a capacity release request, in which the capacity release request
comprises a first capacity reserved for a first device design in a first
capacity management cycle;
receiving a pull-in demand, where the pull-in demand represents a second device
design must be manufactured as soon as possible;

releasing the first capacity to meet the pull-in demand, such that the second device design can be manufactured using the first capacity; and generating a bill for the pull-in demand.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30 further comprising manufacturing products for the pull-in demand using the first capacity after the first capacity management cycle.

32. (Original) The method of claim 30 further comprising checking whether the first capacity is sufficient for the pull-in demand.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 further comprising reserving a second capacity for a the first device design ~~corresponding to the first capacity~~ in a second capacity management cycle after the first capacity management cycle when the first capacity is released.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33 further comprising manufacturing products for the first device design using the second capacity after the second capacity management cycle.

35. (Original) The method of claim 30 wherein the capacity release request is received from a first client and the pull-in demand is received from a second client via a network, in which information of the first and second clients is kept confidential.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35 further comprising transmitting the bill to the second client.

37. (Original) The method of claim 35 further comprising calculating a discount for the products of the first client.

38. (Original) The method of claim 35 further comprising transmitting a notification to the first client, in which the notification comprises cycle time of the second capacity management cycle and completion date for the products of the first client.

39. (Original) The method of claim 35 further comprising defining a capacity push-out ratio for the first client, and the first capacity follows accordingly.

40. (Original) The method of claim 33 wherein the second capacity is originally reserved for the pull-in demand.

41. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium storing a computer program which when executed causes a computer to perform a capacity trading method, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a capacity release request, in which the capacity release request comprises a first capacity reserved for a first device design in a first capacity management cycle;

receiving a pull-in demand, where the pull-in demand represents a second device design must be manufactured as soon as possible;
releasing the first capacity to meet the pull-in demand, such that the second device design can be manufactured using the first capacity; and
generating a bill for the pull-in demand.

42. (Original) The storage medium of claim 41 wherein the method further comprises a step of manufacturing products for the pull-in demand using the first capacity after the first capacity management cycle.

43. (Original) The storage medium of claim 41 wherein the method further comprises a step of checking whether the first capacity is sufficient for the pull-in demand.

44. (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 41 wherein the method further comprises a step of reserving a second capacity for a the first device design ~~corresponding to the first capacity~~ in a second capacity management cycle behind the first capacity management cycle when the first capacity is released.

45. (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 44 wherein the method further comprises a step of manufacturing products for the first device design using the second capacity after the second capacity management cycle.

46. (Original) The storage medium of claim 41 wherein the capacity release request is received from a first client and the pull-in demand is received from a second client via a network, in which information of the first and second clients is kept confidential.

47. (Original) The storage medium of claim 46 wherein the method further comprises a step of transmitting the bill to the second client.

48. (Original) The storage medium of claim 46 wherein the method further comprises a step of calculating a discount for the products of the first client.

49. (Original) The storage medium of claim 46 wherein the method further comprises a step of transmitting a notification to the first client, in which the notification comprises cycle time of the second capacity management cycle and completion date for the products of the first client.

50. (Original) The storage medium of claim 46 wherein the method further comprises a step of defining a capacity push-out ratio for the first client, and the first capacity follows accordingly.

51. (Original) The storage medium of claim 44 wherein the second capacity is originally reserved for the pull-in demand.

52. (Currently Amended) A method for capacity management, comprising the steps of:

receiving a capacity release request, in which the capacity release request comprises a first capacity reserved for a first device design in a first capacity management cycle;

receiving a pull-in demand, where the pull-in demand represents a second device design must be manufactured as soon as possible; and

releasing the first capacity to meet the pull-in demand, such that the second device design can be manufactured using the first capacity.

53. (Original) The method of claim 52 further comprising checking whether the first capacity is sufficient for the pull-in demand.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 52 further comprising reserving a second capacity for a the first device design ~~corresponding to the first capacity~~ in a second capacity management cycle behind the first capacity management cycle when the first capacity is released.

55. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium storing a computer program which when executed causes a computer to perform a capacity management method, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a capacity release request, in which the capacity release request comprises a first capacity reserved for a first device design in a first capacity management cycle;

receiving a pull-in demand, where the pull-in demand represents a second device design must be manufactured as soon as possible; and

releasing the first capacity to meet the pull-in demand, such that the second device design can be manufactured using the first capacity.

56. (Original) The storage medium of claim 55 wherein the method further comprises a step of checking whether the first capacity is sufficient for the pull-in demand.

57. (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 55 wherein the method further comprises a step of reserving a second capacity for ~~a~~ the first device design ~~corresponding to the first capacity~~ in a second capacity management cycle behind the first capacity management cycle when the first capacity is released.